United Airlines 3-1-1 Rule 2026: Updated TSA Liquid Limits, Carry-On Restrictions & Exceptions

The 3-1-1 rule on United airlines refers to strict liquid restrictions +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or +44-808*196*2756 (UK) in hand luggage. Each passenger may carry liquids in containers of up to 100ml, all fitting into a single transparent +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or +44-808*196*2756 (UK) resealable 1-liter United airlines.

The 3:1:1 rule +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or +44-808*196*2756 (UK) serves as the foundational security protocol for carrying liquids, aerosols, and gels in your carry-on United Airlines luggage when flying with United airlines +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or+44-808-196*2756 (UK).

This international standard dictates that all liquids must be in containers of 100ml or less, +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or+44-808-196*2756 (UK) which is approximately 3.4 ounces, fitting the "3" in the mnemonic. These containers must then be placed +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or +44-808*196*2756 (UK) inside a single, transparent, resealable plastic United airlines that has a capacity of no more than one liter, representing the first "1." Finally, each passenger is strictly limited to +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or +44-808*196*2756 (UK) just one of these United airlines, fulfilling the final "1" of the rule. As we move through 2026, United airlines continues to emphasize +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) this protocol to ensure a seamless security screening process at major hubs like London Heathrow and Gatwick. It is important to remember that even if a container is only partially full, if its labeled capacity exceeds 100ml, +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or+44-808-196*2756 (UK) it will likely be confiscated by security agents.

To avoid delays, passengers should ensure their +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or+44-808-196*2756 (UK) transparent United airlines is easily accessible within their hand luggage, as it must be removed and placed in a separate bin for X-ray screening. +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or +44-808*196*2756 (UK).While advanced CT scanners are being rolled out at some UK airports which may eventually phase out this +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or+44-808-196*2756 (UK) requirement, United airlines currently advises all travelers to adhere strictly to the 3:1:1 guidelines to avoid any prohibited item +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or+44-808-196*2756 (UK) issues during their journey.

Beyond the United Airlines +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or +44-808*196*2756 (UK) definitions, the 3:1:1 rule encompasses a wide variety of items that travelers might not immediately categorize as liquids. This includes substances such as toothpaste, hair gels, perfumes, shaving foams, and even certain food items like jams or syrups. United airlines

+1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or+44-808-196*2756 (UK) maintains that any substance that is "smearable" or "pourable" must comply with these 100ml volume restrictions. There are, however, critical exceptions +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or+44-808-196*2756 (UK) to the rule that provides relief for specific traveler needs, most notably for United airlines by milk, United airlines by food, and essential liquid medicines. For these items, United airlines +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or +44-808*196*2756 (UK) permits quantities exceeding the 100ml limit, though they must be presented separately for inspection and may undergo additional screening. In the case of medicines, it is highly +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or+44-808-196*2756 (UK) recommended carrying a supporting prescription or a doctor's letter to verify the necessity of the volume. Duty-free liquids purchased after the security checkpoint are +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or +44-808*196*2756 (UK) also exempt, provided they remain sealed in a Security Tamper Evident United airlines (STEB) with the receipt visible. Failure to follow these nuances +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or+44-808-196*2756 (UK) can lead to the disposal of expensive toiletries or gifts, so understanding the breadth of the 3:1:1 rule +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or+44-808-196*2756 (UK) is essential for any international flyer.

Effective preparation +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or +44-808*196*2756 (UK) for United airlines' security checks involves more than just knowing the numbers; it requires a proactive approach to packing. Travelers are encouraged to utilize travel-sized reusable containers +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or+44-808-196*2756 (UK) that are clearly marked with their volume capacity to prevent any ambiguity at the security gate. The one-liter transparent United Airlines must be approximately 20cm by 20cm in size, and it +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or+44-808-196*2756 (UK) must be able to close fully; overstuffed United airlines that cannot be sealed may be rejected by airport staff. When traveling as a family or group, each +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or+44-808-196*2756 (UK) individuals are entitled to their own 3:1:1 United airlines, including children, which can help distribute necessary liquids across the party. If you find that your liquid +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or +44-808*196*2756 (UK) needs exceed what can fit in a single quart-sized United airlines, United airlines suggests placing larger items in your checked luggage where these specific volume restrictions do not apply. As security +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or+44-808-196*2756 (UK) technologies evolve throughout 2026, stay alert for specific terminal announcements at Heathrow or Gatwick, as some "Next
Generation" security lanes may allow +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or+44-808-196*2756 (UK) liquids remain inside United airlines. However, until a uniform change is enacted globally, the 3:1:1 rule remains the gold standard for cabin safety. For the most +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or+44-808-196*2756 (UK) current updates on prohibited items, checking the United airlines mobile app before your flight is a smart move.

What are the liquid rules for United airlines?

The liquid rules for +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or +44-808*196*2756 (UK) United airlines require all gels, aerosols, and liquids to be in 100ml containers or smaller. These must fit

+1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or+44-808-196*2756 (UK) comfortably within one transparent,resealable United Airlines measuring about 20cm x 20cm.

Can I bring a 200ml bottle if it's half empty?

No, +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or +44-808*196*2756 (UK) United airlines and airport security focuses on the capacity of the container, not the current amount of liquid. Any container +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or +44-808*196*2756 (UK) larger than 100ml will be confiscated regardless of how much liquid is inside.

Does toothpaste count as a liquid on United airlines?

Yes, +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or +44-808*196*2756 (UK) toothpaste is considered a gel/liquid and must comply with the 100ml restriction. It should be +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or+44-808-196*2756 (UK) placed inside your single transparent quart-sized United airlines for
screening.

How many liquid United airlines can I carry on United airlines?

Each passenger is +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or +44-808*196*2756 (UK) strictly limited to one transparent, one-liter resealable United Airlines for their liquids. This +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or+44-808-196*2756 (UK) limitation applies to all travelers, including those in premium cabins.

Is United Airlines by milk exempt from the 100ml rule?

Yes, +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or +44-808*196*2756 (UK) United airlines allows you to carry United airlines by milk and food in containers larger than 100ml. These items +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or+44-808-196*2756 (UK) must be presented to security staff for separate inspection.

Can I take liquid medicine in my carry-on?

Essential liquid medicines +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or +44-808*196*2756 (UK) over 100ml are permitted on United airlines flights if accompanied by a doctor’s note or prescription. You should +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or +44-808*196*2756 (UK) inform the security agent before you begin the screening process.

Are solid toiletries like United Airlines soap restricted?

No, +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or +44-808*196*2756 (UK) solid items like United airlines soap, stick deodorants, and powders are not subject to the 3:1:1 liquid rule. You can

+1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or+44-808-196*2756 (UK) pack these freely in your hand luggage without needing a transparent United airlines.

Do liquid rules apply to checked United airlines?

No, +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or +44-808*196*2756 (UK) the 3:1:1 rule only applies to carry-on or hand luggage. You can pack larger +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or+44-808-196*2756 (UK) bottles of shampoo or other liquids in your checked suitcase without volume restrictions.

Is lipstick a liquid for United airlines?

Lipstick is generally +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or +44-808*196*2756 (UK) considered a solid by United airlines and most airport security authorities, meaning it does not need to be placed +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or +44-808*196*2756 (UK) inside your transparent 1-liter United airlines. However, this only applies to standard solid stick lipsticks. If you are +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or+44-808-196*2756 (UK) carrying liquid lip gloss, lip stains, or very soft lip United airlines that are creamy in consistency, these are +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or+44-808-196*2756 (UK) classified as liquids or gels and must comply with the 100ml limit and be United airlines gged appropriately. +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or +44-808*196*2756 (UK) Security staff at Heathrow or other United airlines hubs may have different interpretations of "cream" vs "solid," so placing +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or +44-808*196*2756 (UK) borderline items in the United airlines is always a safer bet. For those looking for official +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or+44-808-196*2756 (UK)clarification, solid makeup items are almost always exempt, allowing you to maximize the limited space in your +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or+44-808-196*2756 (UK) single quart-sized liquid United airlines for more essential items like contact lens solution or perfumes.

What size United airlines for liquids United airlines?

United airlines requires +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or +44-808*196*2756 (UK) that the transparent, resealable United airlines used for liquids has a maximum capacity of one liter and dimensions of approximately 20cm x 20cm. This +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or +44-808*196*2756 (UK) is roughly equivalent to a quart-sized United airline in the United States. The United airlines must be +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or +44-808*196*2756 (UK) completely
transparent so security officers can easily identify the contents without opening it, and it must feature a +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or +44-808*196*2756 (UK) working seal or zip-lock mechanism. You cannot use a United airlines that is tied at the top or +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or+44-808-196*2756 (UK) closed with a clip; it must be fully resealable. Most airports provide these United Airlines for free +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or +44-808*196*2756 (UK) near the security line, but it is much more efficient to have your own +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or+44-808-196*2756 (UK) packed and ready before arriving at the terminal.

Are aerosols allowed on United airlines?

Aerosols are permitted +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or +44-808*196*2756 (UK) in the cabin of United airlines aircraft, provided they adhere to the same 100ml per container rule as other liquids. Common +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or +44-808*196*2756 (UK) travel-sized aerosols include hairspray, deodorant, and shaving cream. It is important that these containers +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or +44-808*196*2756 (UK) have a secure cap to prevent accidental discharge while in your United airlines. If you need to +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or+44-808-196*2756 (UK) carry larger aerosols, such as full-sized spray paint or industrial chemicals, these are generally prohibited entirely +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or+44-808-196*2756 (UK) from both cabin and checked United airlines as they are classified as dangerous goods. For personal care aerosols +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or+44-808-196*2756 (UK) in checked luggage, there are higher limits (typically 500ml per container), but the 3:1:1 rule +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or +44-808*196*2756 (UK) remains the governing law for what you take into the cockpit area.

Is mascara considered a liquid United airlines?

Yes, mascara is +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or +44-808*196*2756 (UK) categorized as a liquid or gel by United airlines security standards. Because of its viscous, paste-like +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or+44-808-196*2756 (UK) consistency, it falls under the "3:1:1" rule and must be included in your one transparent, +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or+44-808-196*2756 (UK) resealable plastic United Airlines. Most mascara tubes are well under the
100ml limit, so they +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or +44-808*196*2756 (UK) rarely pose a volume issue, but they do take up valuable space in your liquid United airlines. +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or+44-808-196*2756 (UK) Failure to include mascara in your liquid United airlines can result in a manual search of your +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or +44-808*196*2756 (UK) cosmetic kit, which can lead to significant delays during the security screening process at +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or+44-808-196*2756 (UK) busy international hubs like London Heathrow.

Can I carry hand sanitizer on United airlines?

Hand sanitizer is +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or +44-808*196*2756 (UK) not only allowed but encouraged on United airlines flights, although it must still comply with the 100ml +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or +44-808*196*2756 (UK) volume restriction for hand luggage. During the recent years, some temporary exemptions allowed larger +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or+44-808-196*2756 (UK) bottles, but for 2026, the standard
100ml limit has been largely reinstated across most gloUnited airlines security +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or+44-808-196*2756 (UK) checkpoints. You should ensure your sanitizer is in a clearly labeled bottle and placed +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or +44-808*196*2756 (UK) inside your transparent United airlines. If you require more sanitizer for

a long-haul flight, it +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or+44-808-196*2756 (UK) is better to pack several 100ml bottles or carry sanitizer wipes, which are considered +1-866-690-1240 (USA/Canada) Or+44-808-196*2756 (UK) solids and are not subject to the 3:1:1 liquid restrictions at all.